

JFK BOX 29  
FOLDER 16

Berk, Lichtenfels

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(1)

Aug 3, 1978 DDO Moore J. Walton - Base Docs

Spec TSINGTAO - Intel I ["Duck"]

11111401

Aug - Sep 1945

Transportation facilities in Tungtung District

DDO Charles, Leonard Joseph Lane docs

July 1968 Memo for the record

July Conversation w/ [EUGENES - 1]

RETURN TO CIA  
Background Use Only  
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allusion to - Leonard J. Charles was released  
on June 20 after paying a ransom of \$250,000  
(Dr. Hartman Gort) - (handwritten in)

Signed [Wilma R. Van Stry]

Mc I

US I - Charles, Leonard J.

US Dept of Justice - INS Miami Fla

Dec 29, 1966 - DOR 4/21/23

US address - Consulate General of Haiti, Miami

July 17, 1966 - DOR - 1/13/66

US address - Haitian Consul NYC

May 3, 1967 - DOR 4/21/23

US address - Wallingford Astoria NYC

Dec 4, 1966 - DOR 4/21/32

US address - Embassy of Haiti, Wash DC

USA Intel Info Cable Dec 19, 1966

Haiti, Mid Nov. 1966 Power Jockeying Among  
Secret Exile Leaders

Source - [Haitian student - member of clandestine  
Catholic action Movement] Resisted

10143-10332

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following info from 4 different sources w/ access to opposition & pro-Suvalian circles including [Frang Leroy private secretary to agriculture Minister Victor Kevens Constant]

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"Within Suvalian's entourage are 3 persons vying for power after the fall of Suvalian. They are Joseph Edward Charles - President of National Bank of Commerce Louis Seseno, Minister of Finance & Lucien Cambone Minister of Public Works. All 3 are outwardly pro-Suvalianist & there are no signs that they intend to try and overthrow Suvalian themselves.

Joseph E. Charles has the support of former assistant finance minister Louis Lague & Cigarette Minister Victor N Constant, plus that of several businessmen in Port au Prince.

16-8

July 31 1966

3939

Classified Message - Secret - Cite [Port au Prince] [Excerpt - 1] reported July 19 following

from a high ranking palace source who claims obtained info from top palace personality that C. J. Charles traveled to Italy to arrange contact & payment of \$25,000 to [WOEFACT] officer who keeping Suvalian informed re [woefact] plans for Haiti (word "word" inked in)

SJS papers - 7/7/66

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US address - In transit

date & place of admission 6/28/66 NYC

Classified Message June 20 1966

Cdr Claude Raymond, Jr. Roger Lefontant, Port au Prince Univ. Minister Lague & du Vallier's private secretary Pierre Bramby Applied US Consulate 17 June for transit visas for special mission to London. Pres requested 2 w/ stay US going to UK & 2 w/ on

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return trip demand Charles travelling as inspector  
Haitian Ambassador - Consulate separately Transit  
visa for Trip to Europe.

Letter to Dir. of FBI  
from: Dir. of Plans  
Sub: Charles

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Reference is made to the ISF request form concerning  
Subj. who entered US on 3 April 1966. The files of another office  
of this Agency contain the following info more recent than  
contained in TSC SDB - 315/00477-64 dated Oct 9 1964.  
Sub: Inquiry re: the possibility of buying aircraft for  
Haiti.

Source <sup>8</sup> (US national w/ [40 yrs] exper. in [tobacco  
industry]) Charles was specifically referred to as Subj.  
banker & financial manager. Charles was regarded as  
being very close to the family & having ready access  
to Subj. Source describes CJC as croak & poor liar & not  
to be trusted. In 1954 Charles was negotiator on behalf  
of Haitian govt w/EC in England for modernization of  
Haiti's telecomm system. As a result of this contract -  
Haiti experienced a great political scandal - 4 million  
dollar contract delivered 1 million worth of goods.  
Charles was also pres of Haitian Banana Corp. org  
operated by Eric Duppontbaud & Col. Prosper - went  
bankrupt. Charles headed Esprit Oils Co since  
death of Louis de Joux. Charles principal <sup>assistant</sup> ~~interest~~ in  
tobacco industry was Henry Enclaire who was Dir.  
of Haitian Tobacco Monopoly. Is believed to be  
Charles' hatchet man - no verification.

INS - 4/11/66

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US address - Haitian Cons. NYC

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Info Report - CIA. #005-324/0637-66

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Sudy. Charles

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Source [US National, sales rep for [US tobacco] manufact.]

Through attempts to establish business connections, <sup>in Haiti</sup> source learned that a reportedly privately owned tobacco co known as Le Tabac Haitien - SH is directed by CJC a bench Haitian who also happens to be Pres. of Commercial Bank in Haiti. This cigarette manuf. firm is direct descendant of long defunct Haitian - Amer. Tob. Co. Some time ago - Le Tabac began ordering mod. quantities of leaf tobacco & providing letters of credit to pay for it. First encounter of Charles, <sup>subject</sup> attempted to enlist source's principal's financial grasp. To the sum of \$300,000 deferred the offer. Offered resume.

1946 - appt. controller General of Danann Seed Co. of which he became Gen Agent in 1948.

1953 - went to London as a Member of Eon Mission sent to Eng. by Haitian Govt & reg. in 1954 a contract of GE in Country.

1957. appt. member of Eon Mission to Inter's conf. held in Brussels.

1960 - Created Banque Commerciale d'Haiti of which he is Pres. & dir. Gen. Also pres. of 17 other firms in Haiti.

Is exclusive agent for GE Country & General Shareholder A.C. - formerly

Pres. of Chamber of Commerce of Haiti

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Sank - List of Corres

Sank of America - San Fran 1st Nat. of Boston

First Nat. City Bank - NY Boston

Manly Hanger Trust NY Pan Am - Miami

Living Trust NY SECRET Fract. Swetz, also

(PS)



INS 2-13-66

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US address - Haitian consulate NY

INS - 12/13/64 same -

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Classified Message - Nov. 10 1964

DeM mail intercepted announcing death of Antonio Sabonovic in Puerto

re: ref B see also [27] 17TPA 359 index, at least social contact between <sup>Mohammed</sup> Fayad, DeM + Polish rep Galeski

CIA Info Cable Oct 9 1964 Inquired re possibility of buying Aircraft for Haiti.

Place & date acquired - US, Miami Oct 7, 1964

Source - US citizen who operates bus in Haiti where he en-joys friendship of many military & govt leaders & who is a former military officer & a trained reporter.

"On or about Oct 3 1964 the Aviation Investors Co of Fort Lauderdale, Fla, received an inquiry about the possibility of buying a C-119 Aircraft for the Colombian govt. The call was made by Raymond (not further ID) to Saunders U. Robeson, an aviation investors co employee, who agreed to investigate the proposed aircraft purchase.

On Oct 5 Robeson received a telephone call from a man who ID himself as "Clash" (phonetic). re: possible purchase of a P-51 aircraft ostensibly for the Colombian govt, but it was actually intended for Haiti. Robeson agreed to meet w/ "CLASH" at the Congress Bldg in Miami to discuss both purchases.

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Source comment: Robeson is a Caucasian born 1917 who once attempted sugar neg in Haiti, where he became known to several Haitian Govt. officials including CJC. Field comment: Another source previously reported that Charles had unsuccessfully attempted to buy a F-28 aircraft in Arizona

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Dr. Transfer + Cross Ref.

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April 24, 1964

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Charles has influence of Duvalier + reportedly ~~is~~ is closely allied with the deM's in their activities in Haiti.

See Transfer

May 21, 1963

Sub. has returned to Haiti + is seriously being considered next pres.

Items May 17, 1963

At G's request on May 14, 1963, P/S Balog had a farewell interview w/ Haitian banker. Took place at Charles' room at Park Sheraton Hotel in NY. Charles produced a letter from Wm. Hix Wasserman (40 WAC, St. DP) addressed to Humphrey according to Charles Wasserman + HH are good friends. It was a letter of introduction for Charles due to critical period of Haitian relations w/ Castro + that the Admin. might begin to look for men w/ Charles' ability. Charles was unable to make another trip to DC to see HH. He asked his friend + business partner, Joe Dwyer, Tampa to present ~~Wasserman's~~ letter to HH. Offered to cooperate w/ US Cont. "Three" one of Captain's Balog friends."

Charles' career except Charles was a former ambassador of Haiti to US. No promises were made concerning his offer. Signed, Jay B. Lee

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May 10 1963 Memo

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Apr 29 1963 - Donach Mallack, Somerski Expl. Ltrm ACSI telephoned to the effect that a banker named Charles had left Haiti 6 days earlier - had just arrived in NY.

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Joseph Dyer had written to Gen Delmar commander CJC to the US govt.

Mallack alerted Col Sam Kail in Miami to contact Dyer for > info on background of CJC.

May 1 1963 Mallack advised CJC staying at Ritz Sheraton NY & had called since her name had been supplied to him by Dyer. CJC had appts to see LBJ, Sen Kefauver & Cong Rogers. CJC willing to talk to reps of Mallack's office. Mallack said Haitian desk man would go to CJC & invited CJC to go along. James Saloz accompanied NY office. Due to familiarity w/ French language.

May 2 1963 Dyer interviewed by Col Kail in West Palm Beach. Dyer had appt CJC as director of his bank in Haiti.

Charles wanted to see JFK & went to White House received by special appt. see.

May 3 1963 Saloz reported a 5 hour session w/ CJC. For obtaining background info. Copies of info sent to ACSI w/ div + Latin Amer Branch.

Meeting held w/ de M + CJC - (see prior notes) in course of convs CJC desired to see Mr. Wise (State AID) to discuss US aid to Haiti. Request passed along to State. Mr. Ragosta had called her back to pass along to the Haitian desk man's extreme displeasure that anyone in the US would be in official contact w/ CJC. Considered CJC shady, or close to disreputable. Mayo Stuntz decided w/ div and as a result of meeting w/ CJC the D/P Haitian desk had no further plans to contact.

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Wayne Nelson DDJP Coordinator called on May 7 to  
inquire concerning CJC. Said ACSI was concerned that  
due to set up in appts to ~~see~~ <sup>SECRET</sup> CJC, charges might be  
made that ACSI had ~~interfered~~ <sup>obstructed</sup> a CIA contact w/  
Charles. Later said ACSI was satisfied with handling.  
Mataack was of the opinion that US should play ball  
w/ CJC signed AF Czaykowski

11111408

Enclosed in open envelope "Plan for the Econ. Social Dev.  
of Haiti" by CJC

Bendine - Tardieu - advisor to Banque Comm.  
& is Mr. Charles's spiritual father. Owns choc paste  
factory in PaP. (taken from Summary of Haitian  
Holding Co by Gde M)

Booklet - Banque Commerciale d'Haiti w/ picture  
of CJC 1963

DOB 4/21/23

Info Report CIA May 10 1963 OOB - 3,260,765

source - 215 citizen former journalist

4 hour interview. CJC believes this is the  
last chance for US to save Haiti.

List of personal supporters -

Clovis Desnoes - Sec of Commerce + Industry. + a  
good friend - (in side page written - Ambrose L HARRNETT  
(201-345467) told the FBI in Nov 62 that Desnoes is  
one of 2 card carrying Communists in Govt)

Tim Peret - Former Haitian military attache in DC  
If CJC was not made president he would accept  
Sec of Finance + Econ Affairs. Present Sec - Hervey  
Boyer has leftist tendencies (written in: HARRNETT  
described Boyer as the 2<sup>nd</sup> card carrying commie known  
to her)

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Quoted as saying "The tyrant (desnoes) may  
be killed by the army" before 22, May 1963



⑤

signed [Frank Stone]

Rec'd May 22, 1993 Report from Sally  
checked by Sister Anne Chittap

(c) Bank in Port-au-Prince

Memo. May 2~~4~~63. Report NY 2147-3 For OO-A(S)

Gajkowski, Bolesław

8. The situation concerning CJC activities is just as fluid as situation in Haiti. CJC advised us that his friend of Matlack (see what I mean by fluid?) had changed his travel plans to DC instead of Tuesday. He (Arger) now expects to be in DC Thurs or Friday. CJC indicated he would be willing to go to DC sometime this week. We asked to see him again this afternoon. Our meeting (the 3rd) since this week. He asked us to see him

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again this afternoon. Our meeting (the 3<sup>rd</sup> since last Thursday) is scheduled at 1430. Balog (5<sup>th</sup> US Army to Charles) will get in touch w/ Stuntz re: telecon after Balog Charles meeting.

11111410

May 3 Memo from Balog NY-2128-3

At his request on May 3 1963 we had an additional interview w/ CJC. He informed us he had received a telephone call from (Mr) Dyer, Pa. Dyer said (if he could not see him over the weekend but would visit him in NYC next Wed. May 8. Prior to that Dyer plans to meet in DC Jacqueline Selman 3130 P St., a friend of Matthews to discuss things of mutual interest to Haiti. Then Met Ed M & wife.

20 II Charles DDC from [Matthews]

[Secret Contact] NY. On May 20 1968 [James A. Brown] told us that (JC is seeking help in raising the required ransom for his release from prison) from [Brown] himself. [James A. of B & B Inter. Corp] + Dyer [Brown + Dyer are meeting during the evening of May 20 1968 after which [Brown] will take Dyer to airport. Dyer is to fly to Haiti on May 24 1968. [Brown] said Dyer is a friend of the family of Joseph P. Kennedy.

Charles was arrested on ~~May 11 1967~~ June 23 1967.

Confid Memo May 20 1968 Charles uses pseudonym "Jacoby" in his confidential corner. 0003425

Letter from Charles to Matthews dated June 6 1967  
Thanking her for her kindness in 1963

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requesting US assurance that the 2 forces (Castro +  
Baldemar) will be properly neutralized + re-  
quest his kind cooperation. [Mr. Louis B. Brown]  
hand delivered the letter.

Charles stayed in Lm. 522 Albar Tower  
in May 1963

Secret Memo - Phone Call June 27 '67

code used by [CJC + [Brun<sup>5</sup>]]

Beel + Co - "Major Saloy + DOD

1st Nat. City Bank NY - US Govt

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DL + Co - Ionahe Matlack

Howard Corp - Col ~~the~~ Burres a former military  
aid to Pres Johnson

Business trans - help of US Govt to Charles

"... as far as business is concerned, I received  
at my home a rep of Beel + Co. I am very happy now  
I think we have no further worry <sup>concerning</sup> the business  
transaction. He accepted to sponsor the business  
transaction w/ D.L. + Co. The Howard Corp + other  
business enterprises. This is a very big success & I  
hope that w/ the assistance of the 1st City Nat.  
Bank we'll make rapid progress. After all our  
efforts will not have been in vain & our field  
of business activity will be enlarged."

Classified Message June 28 1967 from [Brit air S.]  
Charles' life in danger - relying on US  
govt to save him. US flag flies over central  
office of Commercial Bank

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June 23 1967 Memo - Report from George M. S. M.

Ionahe Matlack has now been put out of

the contact between DCS + [Mr<sup>5</sup> B.] (Resum)

[Mr<sup>5</sup> B. - Louis Brown]

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Yellow Paper Marked Secret: ~~Mr. Matlack~~ June 21 1967

Sub

Mr. Musulin DO called to say that Dorothy Matlack had called to inform him that she had reached [Mr. B] that per instructions [Mr. B] would pass info of Matlack to Zelig in NY. Mr. Musulin said that from his conversation w/ her he believed Matlack wanted to be cut in on this activity & wanted to receive copies of any disseminations.

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June 15 1967 5  
Senate Memos - [Burr] Burrer denies event in Haiti. Burrer who thinks highly of CJC told [Burr] he fully supports CJC's plans & he will see LBJ ASAP.

Memos for Record - June 15, 1967 Agency Contact w/ CJC

CJA contact w/ CJC <sup>in US</sup> dates back to May 1963 when he was <sup>in US</sup> visited in his suite in Hotel Willard in Wash. DC by a rep. of WH. Since that time he has made every move to the U.S. on occasion to talk to some US official. Most persistent of his approaches have been made to D/S/NY whom he believes leads him to DDD. CJA never offered any evidence that he has something going for him inside Haiti. Names he has furnished have meant little or nothing. No hard info has been produced. Fabrication in some cases is obvious. CJC is trying to coerce the US into supporting his <sup>in US</sup> private aspirations.

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INS - 5/3/67

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US address - W. W. Astoria - NY